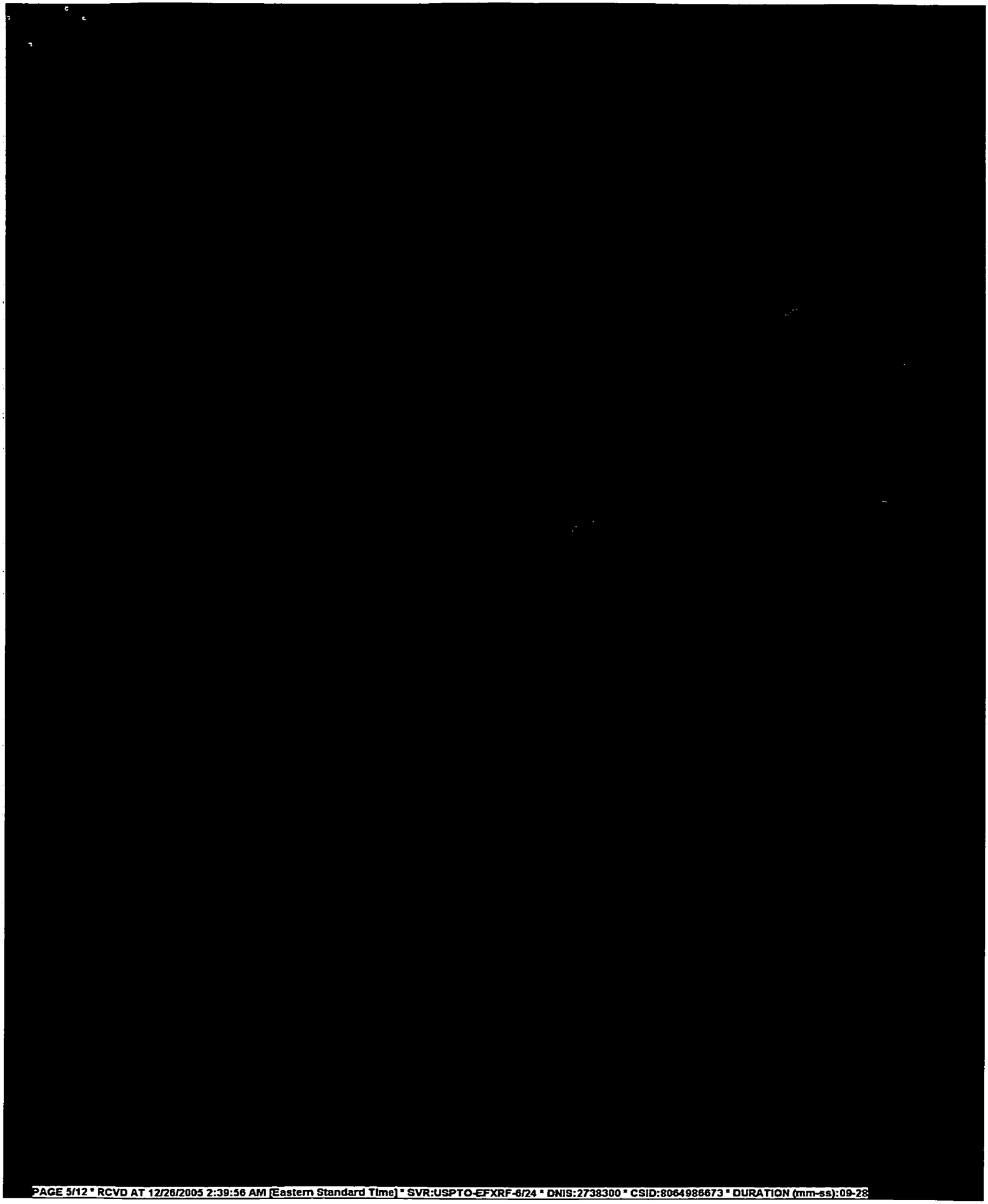

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response to the reset procedure, the HFN is set equal to a transmitting HFN of the first station.

Claim 4 (Original): The method of claim 1 wherein a prior ciphering configuration for the channel is used before the resume command, and a new ciphering configuration is used for the channel after the resume command.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): An interleaved local suspend and reset method for a wireless communications system, the wireless communications system comprising a first station in wireless communications with a second station along at least one channel, the method comprising:

the first station initiating a local suspend function for the channel to perform a ciphering configuration change at [[,]] a suspend point determined by a first sequence number (SN) and a first hyper-frame number (HFN) to form a first HFN/SN pair;

prior to a resume command to terminate the local suspend function, initiating a reset procedure for the channel, the reset procedure causing a next layer 2 protocol data unit (PDU) to be transmitted have an associated HFN/SN pair having an incremented HFN value and an SN value equal to zero;

after the reset procedure, and prior to terminating the local suspend function, the first station transmitting along the channel to the second station no layer 2 PDUs having associated HFN/SN pairs that are sequentially after the first HFN/SN pair; and

awaiting the resume command for the channel to terminate the local suspend function.

Claim 6 (Original): The method of claim 5 wherein a prior ciphering configuration for the channel is used before the resume command, and a new ciphering configuration is

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used for the channel after the resume command.

Claim 7 (Original): The method of claim 5 wherein after the reset procedure, and prior to terminating the local suspend function, the first station transmits along the channel to the second station layer 2 PDUs having associated HFN/SN pairs that are sequentially before the first HFN/SN pair.

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